



Where Quality Is A Lifestyle

NOTICE TO INDUSTRY

Discipline: 2009 International Energy Conservation Code
Date Effective: 1/1/11

Subject: Major changes to the 2009 IECC with 2011 Georgia Amendments – 2011 Georgia Energy Code – Residential

(Please note: This document is a short list of the major changes to the residential requirements from the 2006 IECC with GA Amendments to the 2009 IECC with GA Amendments. This is not intended to demonstrate all changes. Please refer to the 2009 IECC and the 2011 GA Amendments to the 2009 IECC for all code requirements.)

Glazed Fenestration Requirements:

Climate Zone	U-factor (2006-2009)	SHGC (2006-2009)
2	0.65/0.50	0.40/0.30
3	0.65/0.50	0.40/0.30
4	0.40/0.35	0.40/0.30

Access Hatches and Doors:

Assembly	2006	2009
Hinged Vertical Access	R-3	R-5
Hatches/Scuttle Hole Covers	R-19	R-19
Pull-Down Stairs	R-3	R-5 over 75% of panel area

Total UA Alternative (REScheck) Hard Limit Trade-offs:

- When insulating a ceiling with an attic space above, R-30 is the minimum allowed even when using the UA Alternative (REScheck) compliance pathway. The previous minimum trade-off limit was R-19.
- This table now addresses air-permeable and air-impermeable roofline installed insulation. Air-impermeable (spray foam, foam board, etc.) roofline installed insulation can be traded-off to a minimum of R-19. Air-permeable (fiberglass, cellulose, etc.) insulation must be installed with a minimum amount of air-impermeable insulation as follows: Climate Zone 2 & 3: R-19 air-permeable plus R-5 air-impermeable; Climate Zone 4: R-19 air-permeable plus R-15 air-impermeable.

Building Envelope Tightness Testing:

- Building envelope tightness testing is required for all one & two family dwellings and townhouses. This testing must be done by a Certified Duct and Envelope Tightness (DET) Verifier. See Section 402.4.2 of the 2011 GA Amendments to the 2009 IECC for the full requirements and see Chapter 2 of the GA Amendments for the definition of a Certified DET Verifier.



Where Quality Is A Lifestyle

- Residential buildings classified as R2 occupancy may choose to have a visual inspection conducted by an approved third-party inspector as defined in the exception to Section 402.4.2.2 of the 2011 GA Amendments to the 2009 IECC in lieu of the tightness testing.

Sealing Duct Systems:

- The joints and seams of all duct systems must be made substantially airtight by means of tapes, mastics, liquid sealants, gasketing or other approved closure systems. Without exception, all closure systems shall have mastic applied that is at least 0.08 inches thick.
- Building framing cavities shall not be used as supply or return ducts. All supply and return ducts must be lined with metal, flex-duct, duct board, or other material approved in Section M1601 of the IRC.

Duct Tightness Testing:

- All new residential structures shall pass either a rough-in or post-construction tightness test. The only exception is if the entire duct system and air handler are located within conditioned space.
- For renovations that effect the duct system, duct tightness testing is only required if more than 50% of the duct system is modified.

Power Attic Ventilators:

- In new construction, power attic ventilators shall not be connected to the electric grid. Solar powered attic ventilators are allowed.

Lighting Equipment:

- A minimum of 50% of the permanently installed lighting fixtures shall contain only high-efficiency (CFL, LED, etc.) lamps or be controlled with an occupancy/vacancy sensor or automated lighting control system.

IMPORTANT!

The Department of Community Affairs has issued a waiver to delay the enforcement of the testing provisions required by Section 402.4.2.1 and Section 403.2.2 of the 2011 Georgia State Energy Code Supplements and Amendments and to allow the option of a visual inspection (e.g. Blower door test and Duct blaster tests). The delay shall be for a time period not to exceed 6 months from the date that the new code and amendments became effective on January 1, 2011.